

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the patent application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): An axle interior lubricating device for a vehicular axle having wheels rotatably attached to both right and left end portions thereof and provided with an axle housing for storing a drive apparatus driving the wheels, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein

a suction inlet port formed in an inner peripheral surface on a bottom portion side of the axle housing, a suction outlet port formed in an outer peripheral surface of the axle housing at an upper position than a forming position of the suction inlet port, and a suction pipe line communicating the suction inlet port with the suction outlet port are formed integrally with the axle housing, and

the suction outlet port is connected to a lubricating pump.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The axle interior lubricating device according to claim 1, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein at least two discharge ports are formed in the outer peripheral surface of the axle housing at different positions above the forming position of the suction inlet port, the discharge ports and a discharge pipe line communicating the respective discharge ports are formed integrally with the axle housing, and discharge pressure oil from the lubricating pump is supplied to one of the discharge ports.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The axle interior lubricating device according to claim 1 or 2, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein the lubricating pump is arranged on the outer peripheral surface of the axle housing.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The axle interior lubricating device according to claim 1 or 2, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein the lubricating pump comprises a reversible type pump arranged on the outer peripheral surface of the axle housing, and is driven by a driving force of the drive apparatus.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The axle interior lubricating device according to claim 1 or 2, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein the lubricating pump is an electric motor-driven lubricating pump.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The axle interior lubricating device according to claim 1 or 2, ~~being characterized in that~~ wherein a strainer for filtering lubricating oil is inside installed within the suction pipe line.